

REMARKS

The issues outstanding in the Office Action mailed August 4, 2006, are the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112, 102 and 103. Reconsideration of these issues, in view of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. 112

The typographical error (the omission of subscript k) in claim 5 has been corrected. The Examiner is thanked for noting the error. It is noted that support for the correction can be found, for example, in the last line of page 6 of the specification, and in original claim 5. Withdrawal of the rejection is therefore respectfully requested.

It is also noted that various other typographical errors in the formulas have been corrected with this amendment. Support for the changes to claim 12 can be found, for example, at page 10 of the specification and in original claim 12.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. 102 and 103

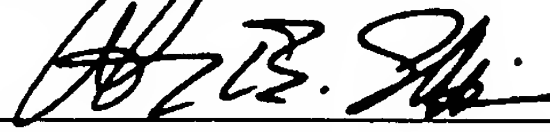
Claims 1-9, 12-15, 17 and 19 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102"e" over JP 2003 20337. Of course, since this reference is a published Japanese application, it is evident that a typographical error in the rejection has been made, and, based on the publication date of the Japanese application (January 24, 2003), it is equally evident that it is a rejection under § "a" of the statute which is intended. Note that the U.S. filing date of the present application is September 3, 2003, less than a year subsequent to this publication.

Accordingly, submission of the attached verified translation of the priority document of the present application, said priority document having been filed on September 4, 2002, obviates both the 102 and 103 rejection. Withdrawal thereof is accordingly respectfully requested.

The claims of the application are submitted to be in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner have any questions or comments, she is cordially invited to telephone the undersigned at the number below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees associated with this response or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-3402.

Respectfully submitted,



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